

GLASSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monthly Board Items

Date Submitted: 6/7/21

Proposed Effective Date: 6/17/21

Short description (title): Unified club and stipends

Submitted by:
Catherine Torbik

Building:
GHS

Proposed cost/amount:
\$2500

ESY:

Funded through:
Unified Grant (SONJ)

Grade(s) impacted if any:
9 - 12

Board Action Requested:

Consideration to approved Unified Champion School Club and stipends to support Unified grant activities from 6/17/21 – 8/23/21.

Details and ramifications:

As detailed in Unified Grant, stipends will be granted to staff to support implementation of UCS grant. One teacher serves a coordinator over the 3 areas of focus in the grant. One teacher serves to support each area as club advisor. UCS athletics will hold fitness activities on 7/13, 7/20, 7/27 with culminating event at Bullock with ESY students on 8/3 and an inter-district UCS kickball game on 8/5. UCS club will meet on 7/8, 7/15, 7/22 to participate in build your own sundaes, rock painting for the community garden, and t-shirt dyeing. UCS esports will establish at least 3 meeting dates and one culminating activity date with inter-district play. Coordinator will hold interest meeting and set up schedule and support ordering of needed supplies. Each area advisor will work with coordinator to seek interest and develop a t-shirts for the group. Field and classroom use will be coordinated with GHS administration.

Positives:

Please refer to grant proposal from 5/26 board motion of grant proposal for details on positive outcomes and increase inclusion opportunities for all students.

Concerns:

Other Comments:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Board Date: _____

Approved: Y or N

Index #: _____

Glassboro High School

Home of the Bulldogs

550 Joseph Bowe Blvd., Glassboro NJ 08028

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NEW CLUB PROPOSAL

Date Submitted: 6/2/21

Club Name: _ Unified (formerly Strangers to Friends)

Advisor's Name(s): Alaeida DeColli, Arielle Visalli-Marshal

Proposed Officers: Vitoria Dow and Alexis Davis

Estimate cost to conduct club (fees, etc.): All stipends and costs covered through SONJ Unified grant

Mission Statement/Goals: To foster inclusive communities for people with and without intellectual disabilities through innovative sport, health, wellness and leadership opportunities

Activities: Please see attached grant proposal

Meeting Occurrence/Location: between 6/21 – 8/20/2021 – up to 12 building level activities and up to 3 inter-building/district culminating events / cafeteria, fields at GHS and Bowe, eSports lounge

How will this club enrich our school/ community? It is the mission of Unified Champion Schools to embrace inclusion and belonging of all students. This is facilitated through accessible activities for all.

Special Needs:

List of students interested:

#	Name	Grade	#	Name	Grade
1.			11.		
2.			12.		
3.			13.		
4.			14.		
5.			15.		
6.			16.		
7.			17.		
8.			18.		
9.			19.		

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10.

20.

Advisor's Name (print):

Advisor's Signature:

Date:

Unified Champion Schools STIPENDS

Unified Coordinator	Alaeida DeColli	\$1,000
Fitness Club Advisor	Arielle Marshal	\$500
Activities Club Advisor	Allison Medora	\$500
eSport Club Advisor	Lara Holman	\$500



May 26, 2021

Dear Catherine Torbik:

Special Olympics New Jersey is pleased to award Glassboro High School a Unified Champion Schools grant of \$7,350 for remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. These funds have been made possible by the generous support of the United States Department of Education, the New Jersey Department of Education, Rowan University, PSE&G, and TD Bank.

This year, as you are well aware, is expected to be like no other. However, in the midst of COVID19 and the seemingly insurmountable issues that our schools are facing, UCS has experienced an exciting growth and expansion in schools and districts across the state. Clearly, New Jersey educators recognize how devastating isolation can be – particularly for students with disabilities. Meaningful and inclusive opportunities will facilitate positive social and emotional experiences and success for all students.

This year, SONJ has created a department that is specifically designed for programming in K-12 schools. The Department of Inclusive Education has a staff that is experienced in education and UCS and is here to assist you and provide you with any support you may need as you start, sustain, improve, and expand programs in the virtual and real worlds. We strive to ensure that UCS is inclusive and collaborative in every way.

Please sign, scan, and return the attached UCS partnership commitment form to me at cjm@sonj.org. Do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your leadership, commitment, and dedication to equity and inclusion.

Welcome to 2020-2021! We look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Carolyn J Marano,
Interim Director of Inclusive Education
Special Olympics New Jersey
cjm@sonj.org
609.896.8000
973.715.9880 (c)

Special Olympics New Jersey Sports Complex

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GENUINE JERSEY PRIDE

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Department of Special Services

370 East New Street
Glassboro, NJ 08028

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Catherine Torbik, Director of Special Education

Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools
Glassboro High School 2021ESY Program Funding Application
Project Description

Please summarize your Unified Champion Schools goals for 2020-2021; how will UCS activities lead to greater equity and inclusion in your school community?

Glassboro Public Schools is dedicated to ensuring that all students are guaranteed the right to feel a sense of belonging in their community. It is the goal of the School Leadership Team to provide accessible opportunities for students to actively engage in the school community.

Goal 1) Introduction of the Unified Leaders Club at Glassboro High School School to serve as the student driven leadership within the building for program implementation, Choose to Include week planning and fundraising and to organize activities within the club to promote social connections among all members.

Goal 2) Implementation of summer inclusion activities through the Student leadership club to include both in person and virtual options such as make your own pizza, lego building or other student selected activities.

Goal 2) Introduction of Unified Sports teams through a summer fitness program.

Goal 3) Exploration and potential implementation of Unified eSports club that will hold practice sessions and participate in a culminating eSport event with other Unified Districts.

Briefly describe the special needs population in your school that will be participating as Unified youth leaders and athletes.

Glassboro Public Schools is looking to provide students, often programmed in self-contained settings, increased opportunities to be included in both athletic and leadership roles throughout the school community.

Glassboro High School special needs population includes students in grades 9 – 12+ who have been identified as having intellectual disabilities, cognitive delays or other closely related developmental disabilities with functional limitations in both general learning and adaptive skills.

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How do you plan to implement your Unified Club and inclusive youth leadership and what support will you provide your students in carrying out their Unified programs?

Glassboro High School is interested in introducing the idea of the Unified Club to students for implementation the following school year. To gain interest in the club, summer activities will be offered both virtually and in person to build a base of student interest. Activities may include make your own pizza event, lego building, outdoor lawn games or other student driven activities. Depending on initial student interest one or two teachers will support these events as club leaders, supporting decision making among the students and communication of events.

How will you fulfill the Unified Sports component? (Unified PE, Fitness, Recreation, Competition) What sports will you participate in, what challenges do you anticipate and how will you address them?

Glassboro High School would like to start a summer fitness program. Lead by a PE teacher with the support of the Student leadership club advisors. The groups will meet throughout the summer to complete fitness games and activities using fitness kits. Activities will provide skill building for school year Unified sports events, such as track and kickball.

Challenges for this activity will be the participation level of students over the summer. Glassboro High School will use various communication forms to remind students of the activities and will use "hype" events at the end of the school year to promote participation.

Glassboro High School is eager to begin a Unified eSports league with students taking on leadership roles in presenting to administration on the benefits of this group. As a potential first-year recipient of the Play Unified School Partnership Grant, students will work with the District tech committee to explore potential eSports options.

Challenges for this activity would be funding for equipment as well as ensuring appropriate infrastructure exists for gaming. Funding sources through various title monies is being considered with some possible use of student owned equipment for virtual interactions. Once the infrastructure needs are established, based on purchased equipment, administration will support the discussion with IT to plan for infrastructure upgrades. Students are already in contact with some schools about potential competitive play and administration will work with surrounding districts to support this activity.

What is your plan for engaging your whole school? How will you incorporate the Choose to Include Week campaign?

Glassboro Public Schools has a PR specialist that helps communicate events and celebrations that are occurring within the district out to the district and to the Glassboro community, through websites, social media and traditional media. This will allow for exposure of the Unified philosophy to a variety of stakeholders increasing interest in inclusive opportunities.

Working with the School Leadership teams, Choose to Include Week will be incorporated into the calendar. The Student Leadership Club will develop activities, announcements, and events that will be supported at the building level to promote Choose to Include Week. Both education and fun/competitive

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

activities will be incorporated into the week. Student athletes will be included in pep rallies and celebrations throughout the school year.

As Unified activities grow, students will be encouraged to share their experiences at other club meetings, parent advisory meetings and other school sponsored events as appropriate.

Do you plan on collaborating or playing other schools in your district or area? If so, explain how.

Through prior work experiences, Glassboro High School will easily be able to collaborate with Lindenwold Public Schools, Kingsway and Delsea Regional Schools. In addition, proximity and shared services with Clayton Public Schools will be used to support collaborative efforts among Unified activities.

It is the hope of Glassboro High School to initiate a summer kickball event with Lindenwold High School.

Is your school currently involved in a Special Olympics New Jersey traditional training program?

Glassboro Public School is currently not involved in the Special Olympics program. The District seeks to initiate involvement with Special Olympics through the development of its Unified Sports program.

Describe your plan for making your UCS programs sustainable. How will you support the Unified Champion School activities when SONJ funding ends?

Glassboro Public Schools seeks grant funding through the Special Olympics of New Jersey (SONJ) to support the planning, development and implementation of a Unified Sports program. It is the District's intent to sustain the program beyond the initial funding support through additional grant opportunities, community fundraising and local funds.

Glassboro High School has already begun the process of establishing the Student Leadership Club as an activity offered through the Board of Education. As the club gains interest, local funds will be considered to support this activity.

Students have initiated an interest in eSports and it has been proposed at an administrative level for exploration.

What are your plans for fundraising? Will you participate in the Cool School Challenge Plunge and Turkey Dash in November 2020?

Buildings will work with the Student Leadership Club and parent advisories to support fundraising efforts. Since it is the intent of the district to maintain Unified activities beyond the support of SONJ, the Student Leadership Club will take on some of the responsibility on determining appropriate fundraisers for the community, such as car wash, bake sales and other donation collections. Glassboro Public Schools is receptive to participating in the Cool School Challenge Plunge and/or Turkey Dash as appropriate for the community.

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